



## IEN Technical Advisory Committee

February 2, 2011

(Approved by Committee April 6, 2011)

The February 2, 2011 meeting of the IEN Technical Advisory Committee was held in the Barbara Morgan Room, LBJ Building, 650 West State Street, Boise, Idaho.

### **ATTENDANCE**

#### **Members/Alternates Present:**

Greg Zickau (Chair), Office of the CIO  
Jerry Reininger (Co-Chair), Meridian School District  
Brady Kraft, IEN  
Jerry Piper, Cambridge Telephone Co.  
Randy Gaines, ISU (via VTC)  
Ann Joslin, ICFL  
Chris Gibson (via VTC), Jerome School District  
Ryan Gravette, IDLA

#### **Others Present:**

Bob Collie, ENA  
Keith Murphy, Qwest  
Mike Vance, ENA  
Lenny Simpson, ENA (phone)  
Mark Westcott, CWI (phone)  
Bob Gibson, NIC (VTC)  
Steve Ruppel, NIC (VTC)  
Steve Smith, NIC (VTC)  
Garry Lough, IEN  
Mike Costa, IEN  
Sally Brevick, OCIO  
Debra Stephenson-Padilla, IEN

### **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Jerry Reininger moved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on October 6, 2010.

Jerry Piper seconded the Motion. It passed unanimously.

### **GENERAL UPDATE**

Brady Kraft discussed the hand-out from ENA showing their "trouble-ticket" and "monthly dashboard" reports and how the IEN staff uses these to evaluate and resolve specific issues. Brady then referred to his "Connectivity Report" that shows 63 districts, 93 schools, and 37,396 students have been connected to the IEN.

Comparisons in costs were researched between the IEN vs. WEN and UEN, and it was found that IEN's costs are about 80% of UEN costs and 15% of WEN costs. It was also noted that the IEN is operating at about 50% of the costs in the RFP. Projected connection times are end of March and remainder by June 30.

The Committee discussed at length the use of Microwave Ethernet vs. copper T-1; TDM, etc. Brady stated that the IEN uses whatever solution is optimal. If Ethernet is available, then the IEN will use Ethernet, but it is not always available to the IEN. Greg Zickau noted that there have been questions from legislators regarding the rurality of the schools that are now connected, and in fact, 70% are categorized as "rural/very rural" using metrics established by the USDA. This has been the intent of the program from the onset. This discussion led to proposed Motions, subsidiary Motions.

**Motion:** Ryan Gravette moved to accept Microwave Ethernet as an option for the service providers to select with the caveat that the Dept. of Administration defines metrics for evaluating the two technologies within 6 months of deployment.

Seconded by Ann Joslin

**Jerry Piper proposed a subsidiary Motion to Amend**, to state “where fiber-based Ethernet is not available to the school, Microwave Ethernet will be accepted as an option with the caveat that the Department of Administration defines metrics for evaluating the two technologies within 6 months of deployment”.

No second

Upon further discussion by the Committee regarding the wording of the proposed Motion, **Ryan Gravette then asked to amend his original Motion** to state “where Ethernet fiber is present but not available to the IEN, Microwave Ethernet will be accepted as an option with the caveat that the Department of Administration defines metrics for evaluating the two technologies within 6 months of deployment”.

No second

**Ryan Gravette proposed a substitute amendment to the original Motion** to state “...if by March 1 there is no fiber-based Ethernet available to the IEN, Microwave Ethernet will be accepted as an option with the caveat that the Department of Administration defines metrics for evaluating the two technologies within 6 months of deployment”. This would apply to the specific sites discussed here today.

Seconded by Jerry Piper

A vote was taken; Jerry Piper voted aye, Ryan Gravette abstained, all else voted nay.

Motion failed

**Motion: Jerry Reininger moved** to accept Microwave Ethernet as an option, with the caveat that the Department of Administration defines metrics for evaluating the two technologies within 6 months of deployment. This relates only to the 7 schools discussed at the meeting.

Seconded by Randy Gaines

A vote was taken; Jerry Piper voted nay, all else voted aye.

Motion passed

IPRAC will be advised of this Motion at the February 8, 2011 meeting.

Jerry Piper left at 3:30 to attend another meeting.

#### **UPDATE ON “COMMISSION FOR LIBRARIES BTOP GRANT PROJECT LAUNCH”** – Ann Joslin

Ann Joslin spoke to the Committee about the BTOP grant that was awarded to the Libraries Commission in August 2010. The Commission aims to create public computer centers in a minimum of 55 of the least connected library facilities in the State. In doing so, it would upgrade the current computer capacity and broadband connectivity, as well as the number and type of public access computers. The other portion of the project is content and services that will be delivered as a result of the increase in public computing capacity.

#### **PERFORMANCE METRICS FROM IEN TO IDLA** – Ryan Gravette

IDLA had been experiencing connectivity issues around September; cause found to be routing issues local to the main site in Virginia. Upon investigation through means of an analysis utilizing true-site evaluation software vs. IEN, it was found that the IEN was 21% faster.

#### **QWEST** – Keith Murphy

Keith discussed ENA and Qwest’s progress in migrating customers over to the new infrastructure of Metro Ethernet. This has accommodated growth of the metropolitan area, and improved performance of the MPLS network.

**ENA – TROUBLE TICKET SUMMARY**

Mean time resolution of trouble tickets has been reducing steadily since October (now at about 25 minutes). In the last month, 80% of outages were due to power failures and 20% due to vendor issues. The average VTC tickets per site have increased significantly because ENA has lowered the level of granularity for greater thoroughness in testing and re-testing new units.

**ENA – BANDWIDTH UTILIZATION REPORT** – Mike Vance reported on the steady increase in available bandwidth since the start of the IEN. Available bandwidth is well above average and peak use. They anticipate a spike in May due to testing and other end of term activities.

The meeting adjourned at 4:08pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Debra Stephenson-Padilla". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Debra Stephenson-Padilla